

SPORTS

ONE POINT

A tense moment in the USSR ice-hockey championship match between gold medal contenders, Dynamo of Moscow and CAC. Having won 5-0, CAC have reduced the gap between them and the leaders, Dynamo, to one point. Sokol of Kiev are certain to win their first bronze medal.

Photo by Boris Koulman



MAIN EVENT OF THE SEASON FOR FIGURE SKATERS

Over 120 figure skaters from 28 nations will enter the world championship in Tokyo on March 4-10. Specialists predict a most acute struggle for the point as well as the medals but the desire of each participant to do as well as he could at the first world championship of a new four-year period. In figure skating it is very important to win the favours of judges and viewers already in the post-Olympic season.

Just like at the recently successful in European championship at Goteborg, the USSR is prepared for an award

acremble in all the events.

Its most authoritative claims are in the pairs, as it will field Olympic champions Yelena Valova and Oleg Vasylyev, Olympic bronze medalists Larisa Seleznyovna and Oleg Makarov, and Veronika Pershina and Maral Akbarov. It is precisely in this succession that they won the 1985 European awards.

The Soviet dancing squad includes Olympic silver medalist and this year's European champion Natalya Bestamyanova and Andrei Bukin, Olympic third finishers and second-best European

duet of Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko, as well as promising Natalya Annenko and Konrik Sretensky.

The men's singles participants are 1984 European winner Alexander Fadeyev, 1985 European silver medalist Vladimir Kotin and youthful Viktor Polenko, who is making rapid progress, while the women's singles entrants are Olympic bronze medalist and 1985 European silver winner Kira Ivanova, 1984 world silver medalist Anna Kondrasheva, and finally improving Natalya Lebedeva.

Then came a lengthy series of ties. Here triumphed the art of defence. In this period the rhythm of the match began to acquire a steady and even character.

And, finally, the last third of the match was, in my opinion, filled with the most interesting games from the point of view of the quality of play. The struggle became more acute.

The creative content of the match was fairly high. In the course of the match I thought interesting a whole number of end-games, which specialists consider essential to include in end-games reference books, and either of us had his achievements here. I would note some curious middle games, but an especially great amount of ideas was in the debate. This is not accidental. Karpov's arsenal has a rich assortment of chess debuts. This advantage clearly showed itself in Begulu and especially in Merano. As for me, I, too, cannot complain of short-

Garri Kasparov on match and plans

A TASS correspondent met in Moscow the participant of the match for the chess world title, International Grandmaster Garri Kasparov, who shared his view on the creative side of the 48 games played and talked of his immediate plans.

Such a lengthy and struggle-filled event evidently cannot be spanned with one glance. For specialists and chess lovers I presented, as I see it, a tremendous material for analysis. I personally thought at the start that everything in the forthcoming event should be excellent. Yet I somehow disregarded the fact that a world title match has a special psychological stress.

In general I would divide the match into three stages. The first was marked by my certain nervousness and a rather large amount of mistakes. The world champion found his play in this situation easier due to his long experience. At this stage Karpov played in his manner, accurately calculating variants and using every my mistake with the greatest profit.

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comings in my debut position. And we both occasionally used the same formations: playing White and Black in search of new resources of position. All this, I think, were new horizons in a game of nearly boundless opportunities. I will apparently in the future determine the development of separate directions in my debut theory.

It is precisely half a year go before our new match, during it I must not only go myself and restore my health, but also well prepare for September competition. Specifically, in a few days I am going home to Baku. In March I am planning to go to the final of the teams of the palaces of youth and schoolchildren, which will be led by Grandmasters. I have these competitions, and I played two roles in them: I was a pioneer I was later the team as a ranked member, and now, already the second time, I will let children's captain.

Incidentally, I would like to use the occasion to express concern over the future of the tournament, its prestige, the decline, and the main reason is that many of my colleagues have refused to evade this "unpleasant" test.

In late May-early June would like to enter a big national tournament with participation by strong players. Then will come the world preparation for the world title match.

I think, both Karpov and I are preoccupied with the idea of the forthcoming match with the United States on a complex of mutually related issues involved in space and nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union will act in a constructive and balanced manner, actively abiding by all parts of the agreement reached on the subject and aims of these negotiations. The success of the negotiations depends on whether the American side will approach issues in similar vein.

USSR will be constructive

The US administration, which has set itself the task of achieving military superiority, continues to spiral the arms race both in nuclear and conventional weapons. It seeks to turn outer space into an arena for confrontation. Tensions continue unabated in Europe, where deployment of new American first-strike nuclear missiles continues in various countries, including the Federal Republic of Germany.

This was stated by the First Vice Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko during discussions in Moscow with West German Federal Vice-Chancellor, and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Andrei Gromyko stressed that in contrast to the US dangerous line the Soviet Union pursues a course towards a radically improved and healthier international climate and towards seeking practical ways of halting the arms race on Earth and preventing it from extending into outer space.

In this connection he stressed the fact that at the forthcoming talks with the United States on a complex of mutually related issues involved in space and nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union will act in a constructive and balanced manner, actively abiding by all parts of the agreement reached on the subject and aims of these negotiations. The success of the negotiations depends on whether the American side will approach issues in similar vein.

Concerning the problem of preventing militarization of outer space, anxiety was expressed by the Soviet side over the stand taken by the Government of FRG on the American plans to militarize outer space. To be a party of "research" efforts aimed at developing crack space weapons, said Andrei Gromyko, would actually turn the FRG into an accomplice in the violation of the anti-missile defence treaty and, consequently, in undermining the entire process of limiting and reducing nuclear weapons. Hope was expressed that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany will approach this vital issue guided by the interests of peace.

During discussions on the situation in Europe Andrei Gromyko specially stressed the need for an unswerving observance of the territorial and political realities which emerged following World War II and post-war developments. It was pointed out that certain circles in the Federal Republic were making inadmissible attempts to question the European borders as laid down by the Yalta Agreement of the allied powers and by a number of international treaties, including those between the FRG and socialist countries, as well as the Helsinki Final Act.

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In the name of peace

A meeting with former French Prime Minister, Pierre Mauroy, recently took place at the premises of the Association for Relations Between Soviet and Foreign Towns. P. Mauroy, who is Mayor of Lille, is in the USSR at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and Association in his capacity as President of the United Towns Organization.

The meeting emphasized the importance of broad movement of twinned towns in countries with different social and political systems as part and parcel of the fight of peace-loving forces throughout the world to eliminate the threat of nuclear war and curb the arms race; for disarmament, detente and consolidation of mutual understanding and cooperation among nations. In this respect, attention was drawn to the forthcoming 40th anniversary of Victory over fascism which will be celebrated by the entire progressive mankind. Activities to be held in the twinned towns to mark the anniversary will become a major contribution to the cause of peace. P. Mauroy also discussed questions relating to further development of links between the United Towns Organization and the Soviet Association.



A group of foreign diplomats in front of the museum's exhibits—steel crowbars used as anti-tank obstacles. Photo by Boris Koulman

Soviet Army leaders meet diplomats

A meeting was recently held at the Moscow Museum of the USSR Armed Forces between diplomats accredited in the USSR and ranking Soviet Army leaders, who took part in major operations during World War II. The meeting was dedicated to the 40th anniversary of Victory over fascism.

In one way or another three-quarters of the world's population in 61 countries took part in World War II, said Pavel Zhilin, head of the Military History Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Fascism was overthrown by the joint efforts of the anti-Hitler coalition. But the brutal of that battle was borne by the Soviet people.

Pavel Zhilin cited only some facts to corroborate this. By June 1941, Hitler had concentrated 190 divisions against the USSR, whereas only eight divisions were in action on other fronts. Committed to action against our country were 5,000 aircraft, 4,500 tanks, and about 50,000 guns and mortars. In 1944, 239 fascist divisions were active on the Eastern front, and only 85 on the others.

(Continued on page 2)

WHEN LOSSES ARE IN LINE WITH RULES

Six Soviet racers in three semifinals of the 20th individual world speedway championship in Stockholm, Eindhoven and Frankfurt on the Main left victims to the rules of the International Motorcycle Federation. They showed results enabling them to continue in the next stage but did not get "passes". The rules are that from each semifinal not more than two racers of one country can continue the fight for the world title. According to the rules, the coveted "six" was made by Vladimir Sukhov and Sergei Ivanov, Yuri Ivanov and

Vladimir Fedorukov, and Vladimir Lyubich and Sergei Kozlov, who showed the best results.

Together with them, the finals in Assen, Holland on March 9 and 10 will be entered by three Swedish racers (among them defending world champion Eric Stenlund), two racers from Finland and West Germany each, and one from Austria and Czechoslovakia each. Holland, the host of the finals, will field one rider without preliminary contests.

Boris MIKHAILOV



RACE AFTER LEADER

The closing games of the second stage of the USSR women's basketball championship did not affect the leading position of Novosibirsk Dynamo, which has 41 points from 22 games (19 wins). It is ahead of another five top teams vying for the title, among them Central Army Club and Riga TTT with 40 points each (19 wins), Minak Gortson with 37 (15), Leningrad Spartak and Sverdlovsk Uralmash with 34 (12).

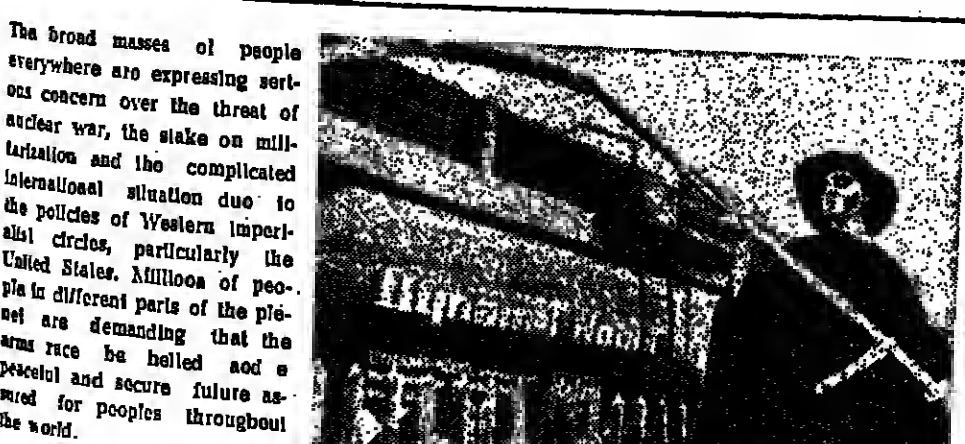
These clubs will hold a three-stage tournament, counting in the aroused points. Then the first and second finishers will play the title in three games (until two wins), and the third and fourth-placed teams will clash for the silver. The decisive games are due in May. Now a break is on in the championship until March 19 due to Soviet clubs' attendance at the semifinals of the European club tournaments.

Photo by Andrei Borisov

New match—on September

Speaking at a press conference in Manila FIDE President, Compromiso said that despite some demands that the tarnished world chess title match between Anatoly Karpov and Garri Kasparov be resumed, his decision was final and not to be revised. He said that on September 2 this year Karpov and Kasparov will open a new match, whose winner will become the world champion. On behalf of FIDE he emphasized, that the 15 decision was important to the situation in the chess world. This decision without pressures on me and directly leaves that it was correct at the time it was taken and is too.

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Supreme Soviet delegation visits USA

Washington. A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by a member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Secretary of the Communist Party of the Ukraine V. Shcherbitsky, has come to Washington at the invitation of the House of Representatives of the US Congress.

In a press statement V. Shcherbitsky noted that in the present tense international situation legislators in the two countries bear a great burden of responsibility for the world's future and must take advantage of every opportunity at their disposal to prevent the military threat and save civilization from destruction. No one has the moral right to be indifferent to the solution of this vital problem of modern times.

We, he said, the Soviet Union believe, that positive changes in the Soviet-American relations and, still better, their complete normalization are important not only in themselves, but would also have a favourable effect on the international climate. The Soviet Union favours, among other things, trade, economic, scientific and cultural contacts and cooperation with the United States.

Reaffirming Nicaragua's desire for peace, Daniel Ortega again pointed out that the peaceful initiatives of his government are aimed at restoring tranquility in Central America. We are all prepared to make any sacrifice for peace, he said. He also noted that the US Government must seriously revise its policy towards Nicaragua, he concluded.

Nicaragua resolved to defend revolution

Managua. President Daniel Ortega has said that the Nicaraguan people are firmly resolved to defend the gains of the Sandinista revolution. Addressing a press conference here, he said: Our strength lies in the high morale of our people who are imbued with glorious heroic traditions and not in sophisticated weapons we do not have.

The bloody war imposed on us by Washington has been going on for many years, claiming thousands of lives and inflicting enormous losses on the economy, said D. Ortega. The United States has knocked together, trained and armed a huge army of mercenaries who are killing unarmed people, not working women, children and elderly people in an attempt to justify

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Harold Brown criticizes Reagan military policy

Washington. Noted US military expert express concern over the clearly unconstructive approach by the Reagan administration to the forthcoming Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms.

Programme of action against Tomahawks

Tokyo. The anti-war organizations of Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Philippines and some other states of the Pacific have devised a programme of joint action against the Pentagon's fitting of ships and submarines with Tomahawk cruise nuclear missiles. Their representatives held press conferences in Tokyo, Melbourne, and Honolulu declaring the strict of the campaign against the deployment to the Pacific of sea-based cruise missiles.

The initiators of the movement, on the basis of the data they gathered, found that many US Pacific fleet ships have these rockets, among them the battle-ships "New Jersey" and "Iowa", nuclear submarines "La Jolla", "Challenger" and "Sea Francis", which visit Japanese ports. The press conference in Tokyo stressed that in the next fiscal year the Reagan administration plans to give the Navy another 249 cruise missiles.

Within the framework of a new international campaign of peace champions actions of protests will be organized in many countries of the Pacific against the aggressive line of the Washington administration. The biggest meetings and demonstrations will be held in June, simultaneously with the action of peace-loving forces in Britain and Scandinavia via the withdrawal from Western Europe of US first-strike nuclear missiles.

fact that, like in the past, it demonstrates neglect for the problems of limiting arms. He expressed concern over the White House's refusal to directly state its intention to comply with the Soviet-American accord and even studying the question of a possible resumption of an important treaty for the sake of the implementation of its military programmes, especially in militarization of space. If the "strategic defense initiative", calling for the creation of a large-scale system of anti-missile defenses with space-based elements, continues, he stressed, one cannot expect results at the talks which might lead to reductions in offensive arms.

Former Assistant to President for National Security Affairs Brent Scowcroft urged Washington to take a constructive position at the forthcoming talks. He stressed the need to comply with the treaties signed by the USA and the USSR, stressing in part special importance of observing the 1972 treaty on the limitation of antiballistic missile systems.

Statement by South Korean opposition figures

Tokyo. Noted South Korean opposition figures Kim Te Chuhun and Kwon Yen Sam made a joint statement condemning the anti-popular policy of the puppet regime of Chun Doo-Hwan.

We will continue to fight for the liberation of the nation from the dictatorship, as we fought to topple the former regime of Park Chung-Hee, it stresses. The document urges unification of all advocates of democracy for undoing a general attack on the Seoul clique. They demanded the granting of freedom of speech, the right to political activity, repeal of the repressive laws and revision of



Peace activist from White House. Drawing by Sergei Almidinov

OAU CONDEMNS PRETORIA UNITED STATES

Addis Ababa. The United States and other allies of racist South Africa encourage the Pretoria regime to continue its illegal occupation of Namibia and policies of terror against the black population, particularly Angolan and Mozambican. The message to part of resolutions adopted by the session of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Ministerial Council currently taking place in Ethiopia.

The American policy of constructive cooperation with the apartheid state, the resolution stresses, is directed at preserving the colonial racist domination in Namibia and perpetuating the plunder of the territory's wealth. The OAU ministers condemned Pretoria's attempt to organize a so-called multiparty conference in Namibia and called an African countries not recognize a regime which is being made together this way. The delegates at the meeting sharply criticized Namibia's militarization by the South African regime, such as forcible entry of Africans into the puppet army. Having affirmed that the only basis for a peaceful settlement in Namibia is the UN Security Council resolution No. 435, the Council of Ministers demanded an urgent convocation of the UN Security Council to discuss the situation.

The resolution on the situation in South Africa itself expresses indignation with mass repression mounted by the authorities in Pretoria against opponents of the apartheid system. The ministers have demanded an immediate and unconditional release of Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress.

FACTS and EVENTS

It was announced in Washington that the next test of anti-satellite system ASAT is planned for this March is being held in the Reagan administration. The test is intended to be the first of the US aggressive plan to militarize outer space.

One of the major goals of the union of cooperatives in the zone is to involve in production the idea of socialist revolution of the society. The union's draft charter demands the current law of cooperation to be reorganized. Cooperative signed in the struggle against the exploitation and for building a socialist economy.

In line with the modern Government's transmission programme over 517,000 people are resettled in the past year. The programme calls for resettling people on well established areas on the island of Sumatra, and Sulawesi and the Irian Jaya provinces.

Soviet Army leaders meet diplomats

[Continued from page 11] These talks are taking place in Moscow, and are being held in a very confidential manner. The Soviet Army's victory over the West.

The meeting, in which Army leaders, including the Chief of Staff, Marshal of the Soviet Union, and the Minister of Defense, are taking place in a very confidential manner. The Soviet Army's victory over the West.

On the other hand, the American side is also taking place in a very confidential manner. The American side is also taking place in a very confidential manner. The American side is also taking place in a very confidential manner.

Continuing the policy of active interference in the internal affairs of countries of Central America, the Washington administration is increasing economic and military aid to the bloody regime in El Salvador, which will reach 457 million dollars this year. According to "The New York Times", the USA personally keeps there twice as many military "advisers" as it officially admits. Recently the Duarte regime got from Washington a new batch of combat helicopters and planes equipped with large-calibre machine-guns and eight vision devices, which will be used for punitive operations against the peasant population. Trained by US instructors and equipped with arms "made in the USA", the punitive troops of the El Salvadorian armed forces and the ultra-right groups carry out the policy of genocide and use the scorched-earth tactic against the rebels and civilians. In 1984 alone the footings of the US "advisers" killed 2,233 civilians.

US military "advisers" to El Salvador.

New creation of Punjab extremists

New Delhi. Western "radio voices", conducting ideological sabotage against sovereign states, have found a new supporter. Broadcasting now is the radio station, The Voice of Khalistan—the mouthpiece of the Punjab extremists who found shelter in London and are in favour of India's splitting. In an address to the listeners, the head of the extremist S. S. Chohan made direct attacks on India and urged the creation there of an "independent state of Khalistan".

Characteristically, British authorities did nothing to stop the radio criminals. This is understandable. Such dirty attacks on India are quite in line with the plans of imperialist states, which openly interfere in the internal affairs of states conducting an independent peaceful line.

Hun Sen: plans to destabilize Kampuchea will fail

Phnom Penh. The main reason for tensions in the world, including in places like South-East Asia, has been the militaristic policies of the United States, said Hun Sen, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Addressing a rally of workers to the province of Takeo, he

noted that the United States and international reactionaries are seeking to restore the positions they lost in South-East Asia and to aggravate the situation in the region. As a result, they are using the so-called Kampuchean issue. Although it is clear to everyone that the main condition for a political settlement of the questions which have arisen around Kampuchea is a complete removal of the Pol Pot people from political arena, cessation of support and assistance to the gangs of the Khmer reactionaries who have found refuge in Thailand, Washington and Peking are stirring up trouble in South-East Asia without even concealing their plans to put the Kampuchean people on their knees and to reveal the development in the region.

However, the plans to destabilize Kampuchea will not come to anything, the Kampuchean leader stressed. The units of the Kampuchean Army are holding the situation in the country under their firm control and are reliably defending sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kampuchea.

SOUTH AFRICA—SOCIETY OF LAWLESSNESS

Geneva. The UN Human Rights Commission has passed a number of resolutions castigating apartheid in South Africa, the crude and mass violations of human rights by the racist, as well as the continued occupation by its troops of Namibia and the support of some Western nations for the Pretoria regime.

The resolution dealing with the human rights situation in South Africa notes that South Africa is a racist and colonialist state, which carries out wholesale arrests, murder and torture political activists, and cruelly persecute demonstrators protesting against apartheid.

The resolution on the human rights situation in Namibia condemns South Africa for its military occupation of Namibia and its policy of terror against the black population, especially those supporting the struggle for independence. The resolution points out that the Pretoria regime uses the territory of Namibia for acts of aggression against neighbouring African states and demands an immediate withdrawal of the South African troops from the southern areas of Angola.

The resolutions were passed by a clear majority of UN Human Rights Commission members. The USA and some of its allies voted against it.



Science and technology

TUNNEL NEWER

The physico-technological institute of the National physical centre in Romania has built a laser instrument that will be used to equip a self-propelled mechanical shovel—the "Mole"—designed for hewing tunnels through rocky mountains and HEP aqueducts with a diameter of up to three metres. Tests have shown that the "Mole" works with high precision.

2,000-YEAR-OLD SEEDS

An ancient granary containing the seeds of a plant was discovered recently during archaeological excavations in Japan. Scientists estimate that they had been in the earth for more than 2,000 years. After examining the seeds in a biological laboratory they were sown and some time later sprouted. It turned out that the plant was one of the ancient types of bean which was extensively grown by ancestors of the Japanese.

BULGARIA'S RED DATA BOOK

The first volume of the "Red Data Book of Rare and Endangered Plants and Animal Species in Bulgaria" which has recently been published finalizes a profound research. A total of over 3,400 species have been recorded. The scientists were glad to know that certain species which had been regarded as extinct because no evidence had been reported as them for the past 50 to 100 years, were found and entered into the book. However, many plants continue to be endangered.

The 760 species included in the book are complemented with detailed descriptions, pictures or drawings. This book can be used by non-specialists as well—to protect the endangered plants, 200 of which are known in Bulgaria since ancient geological epochs.

OF INTEREST

Orchestra found

The entire police force of Lyons was put on alert to look for an orchestra (naturally, not musicians but instruments stolen from a recording studio). It was only after 84 hours that the missing instruments were found. They had all been carefully arranged near the entrance to the studio. The organizers of the "joke" (that is how the local police qualified the incident) were not found. But in the opinion of the local police, the orchestra was not really stolen. It was only a "joke" of Lyons. It is intensely the protection of musical instruments.

ments there is on lots of truth in this joke. Not all the protective measures were being previously met.

Victims of originality

The birth registry department in Manila, a city in the Philippines, announced that hundreds of babies with too "exotic" names. The reason for that quite a number of young parents, wishing to outdo one another, give their children the most incredible names; sometimes geographical like Sahara, Borneo, Iceland and so on. The officials got out of patience when two married couples gave the following names to their babies: the girl—after a soap powder and the boy—Postscriptum.

What were knights like?

The conception of knights in the countries of Western and Central Europe as people of immense stature is far removed from reality. This conclusion was made by West German scientist Helmut Wurm. After studying the remains of knights in the museum of the Federal Republic of Germany, France, and Austria, he established that the average height of knights fluctuates between 166 and 170 centimetres. Those who had the smallest stature lived in Prussia and its surroundings.

rounding areas. They were only 158 centimetres tall. One knight, Duke Johann Koenig, who lived in Koburg, was a "shorty"—only 155 centimetres in height.

Bridges... stolen

The management of the Philippine National Railways company has appealed to the police to help retrieve three bridges of the northern railway. The bridges, between 20 and 30 m in size, recently disappeared from Luzon Island (Luzon, Luzon provinces). An eyewitness maintains that he saw a group of people with a gas welding machine cutting a bridge into parts and packing the sections with help of a crane into heavy trucks which later drove off.

VIEWPOINT

Why Washington slanders

The USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs has rejected the slanderous allegations contained in a White House "report" on Soviet "violations" of international agreements. The "accusations" were invented to distract public attention from America's unprecedented military programmes and its policy of undermining the long-existing system of arms limitations, and measures for strengthening international security.

Moscow has fairly sound reasons for such conclusions. It is a fact that the USA has already embarked on a course of undermining the famous 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems—a document which made possible the conclusion of the 1972 interim agreement on various measures relating to strategic offensive weapons limitation—as well as the SALT-2 Treaty. The intention to undermine the treaties was officially declared in connection with the proclamation of "new wars" programme calling for the creation of a large-scale anti-missile system with space-based elements, which is prohibited by the 1972 Treaty.

But what matters is not just militant declarations by American leaders but Washington's actions. The USA has already conducted several anti-missile weapons tests and ever more actively exploits the Shuttle space programme for military purposes. President Reagan officially directed that the Space Shuttle spacecraft be used for military purposes. The administration has asked, for 1986 fiscal year, 3,700 million dollars (nearly three times as much as the amount allotted for the current fiscal year) for "research" within the framework of the Reagan initiative in the strategic defence.

Not accidentally, the USSR Foreign Ministry's representation in the US State Department stresses, America is doing everything possible to undermine and thus collapse the famous Treaty on anti-missile defence, primarily because it is an obstacle hindering militarization of outer space and blocking the offensive and imperialist goal by attacking the Treaty. Washington intends to torpedo the process of limit-

Edgar CHEPOROV



pad with multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicles (MIRVs).

In Helsinki the USA together with other states, solemnly undertakes to promote European peace and security, rapprochement and cooperation at European level; cancellation, development and strengthening the process of détente on the continent. But what has actually happened? The US policy in Europe, only aims at increasing military tensions and deploying nuclear weapons on the continent. It questions the existing European realities, destabilizes and hinders normal cooperation.

On the one hand, the Geneva talks the Soviet Union again declares: we meticulously carry out our international obligations, and no one will manage to undermine the high authority of the policy of the USSR. As for Washington's slander, it is being regarded to prior to the talks in order to poison the atmosphere from the very beginning around them and hamper businesslike discussions on the most important problems of disarmament.

At the talks the USSR is ready to seek radical solutions, which would prevent the arms race from spilling into outer space and half it here on Earth. It is possible to solve these problems but this requires: political will from both sides, their preparedness for rational compromise and a real desire to strengthen stability and peace.

Round the Soviet Union

● A TV BRIDGE LINKING MOSCOW WITH THE WRANGLER ISLAND, LOST IN THE ICE OF THE ARCTIC, HAS STARTED FUNCTIONING. It became possible thanks to the Moskvla land-based station that receives satellite TV programmes and which became operational not so long ago in Anadyr. Later in 1984 and only in 1985 articles at such stations were also installed of a number of cities and villages of Chukotka.

● THE SYERDLOVSK-BASED PRODUCTION AMALGAMATION URALMASH HAS BEGUN ASSEMBLING UNITS OF THE THIRD DRILLING RIG DESIGNED TO BORE HOLES 5,000 METRES DEEP. The first two such rigs have been operating in Azerbaijan and on the Kola Peninsula for several years now and have already bored wells many kilometres deep there. The third one will be shipped to Uralog in Western Siberia.

USING KAMA RIVER ENERGY

The assembling of the last (sixteenth) unit of the Nizhnekamensk hydropower station in Tataria (an autonomous republic in Central Russia) has started. The builders of the station have concentrated their attention on the zone of the flooded reservoir. It will open a deep-water route for ships over a distance of hundreds of kilometres on the Kama and Belaya rivers and help improve irrigation of arid districts.

A 20 km long concrete dam has already been erected.



PIONEER IN NUCLEAR POWER ENGINEERING

Pictured is the first power unit of the Novovoronezhskiy plant. It is the USSR's first atomic power plant named after the country's 50th anniversary. This plant holds a special place in the Soviet nuclear power industry. It was here that tests were conducted on power facilities based around 440 MW atomic reactors. Today, similar ones are operating at plants in Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, Finland, Czechoslovakia, India and Cuba.

A completely new type of water-moderated reactor (1,000 MW) operates at the Novovoronezhskiy plant. It is so designed because it takes part in the chain reaction and serves to heat tanks of molten salt elements. This reactor is technically perfect and fully secure and is one of the latest achievements of nuclear power engineering. In the next few years it will become the basic reactor of similar plants in CMEA countries.

In line with a 1979 agreement, fifty enterprises and associations in socialist countries are involved in the construction of such reactors. They include the Atomenergoproekt in the USSR, Czechoslovakia's Skoda, the Magdeburg heavy engineering combine in the GDR and the Hungarian Csemessze association.

The Novovoronezhskiy plant has worked for 21 years now, and during this period has become a peculiar international university. It has a technical centre where specialists from the CMEA countries learn the trade of nuclear power engineers.

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All-weather complexes at moorages

At the port of Vents in Latvian Republic a mechanized complex for the transshipment of potash salts has obtained its planned output of 7,000 tonnes of fertilizer per day. All operations — unloading of special cars, transportation of potash salt to the storehouse and its delivery to the holds of motor ships — have been fully mechanized and automated. Fertilizers pass the whole route through closed galleries thus making it possible to work in any weather.

Several all-weather complexes went into operation at the moorages of Vents during the 11th Five-Year Plan period. Oil products, chemical goods and ammonia are reloaded without manual labour, resulting in a sharp reduction to the time of anchorage at the moorages.

Finnish and FRG companies participated, on compensation basis, in the construction of the complex for transshipment of potash salt.

GEOTHERMAL WATER OF SIBERIA

Livestock-breeding farms in the Omsk Region, Siberia, are now heated with geothermal water. The medicinal properties of thermal mineralized water containing iodine, bromine and other microelements are also used in spa. Many enterprises have built preventive health centres with swimming pools where workers undergo a course of therapeutic bathing.

In the southern districts of the Omsk Region, where water is not so mineralized, raising of crops has begun. In warm water they grow very quickly and gain up in live kg in weight.

A vast amount of hot water is concentrated in the sand deposits in the West Siberian arctic basin, covering an area of three million square kilometres. Scientists are looking for a new application of subsoil waters. One of the wells produced water with properties which can be used to cure kidney-stone diseases.

and its life depends on the Karam Canal which carries the waters of the Amudarya for 850 kilometres. Now there is enough water and the city abounds in verdure. To make the new residential districts look as green the construction of hydrotechnical facilities which can additionally supply 70,000 cu m of water daily has started.

close to the steel works, the Azot chemical works, and the Dnepropetrovsk chemical factory have been knocked down. The site has been planted over with green trees which form a peculiar health shield for the city.

TELEPHONE IN EVERYDAY LIFE

By the year 2000, 80 per cent of the Soviet families will be on telephone. Reporting this, the newspaper SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes that this will come as a result of the recent resolution by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on measures to consolidate the material and technological basis of the telephone services in the years between 1985 and 1990 and in the period until the year 2000.

The development of telephone communications in the 12th five-year plan period of 1986-1990 will allow to increase the number of services, the newspaper notes. It will become possible to use the phone to order food and pins (fiches), obtain information about the availability of goods and medicines, transmit electrocardiograms and the results of medical examinations by using the domestic phone and also to find out weather forecasts. Large-scale introduction will start of most up-to-date electronic and quasi-electronic telephone exchanges in which the subscribers are connected by means of specialized computers. Such stations, apart from making telephone conversations more intelligible and reducing the level of noise, can also inform the subscriber about an incoming call while he is talking with someone else, prepare conversations with several subscribers at the same time, shift the call to another telephone and reduce the time required for dialling. Another technical novelty is that alongside traditional telephone cables wide area will be made of optical fibre communications in which information is transmitted by a beam of light rather than conventional electric current.

TESTING RANGE FOR LIVING 'SEISMIC SENSORS'

This country's first bio-seismological testing range is being set up near Alma-Ata, the capital of the socialist republic of Kazakhstan in the east of the country. The initiator of the establishment is zoologist, naturalist and writer, Doctor of Biological Sciences Pavel Markovskiy, reports TRUD.

Professor Markovskiy believes that the animals' reaction to the effects of the environment is protected and that it has been instilled in the course of a lengthy evolution when only those who could react quickly to time to save their lives that have survived the numerous dangers. A human being is unable to hear the sounds of an impending earthquake, for example, but the animals do hear them, and they can also be registered by means of special instruments known as the geophones.

Today the scientists have clearly singled out the animals in the environment which can influence the animals' ability to predict earthquakes, says Markovskiy. Among these animals are the microseismic activities of the Earth's crust, changes in the air pressure and in gravitation, fluctuations in the levels of subterranean water, infra- and ultra-sounds, variations in the electromagnetic fields, and except of gases from the bowels of the earth. All these are geophysical phenomena. The zoologists have to discover more of them. They also have to find in the animals the "instruments" bestowed on them by nature — sense organs which notice these anomalies in the geophysical situation.

The main "dramatic person" of the first Soviet bio-seismological testing range are mountain animals, living in the holes, birds and ants which make galleries up to 110 metres deep in the earth, and of course, the molluscs which, Professor Markovskiy believes, are an "intelligent elite" among the toads.

The animals will live in a specially gorges on a special plot of ground assigned for this purpose.

New textbooks for schoolchildren

Millions of Soviet schoolchildren will study chemistry with a new textbook authored by Guntis Rudzitis, a Latvian (Baltic republic) teacher who recently won a contest on the best textbook for this subject. The book contains colourful tables, drawings, supplementary sheets, and explains the most complicated things in a very uncomplicated way.

Improvement on school curricula, programmes, textbooks and teaching aids is one of the most important tasks for the comprehensive educational reform now underway in the country. Textbooks must be easy to understand, interesting, bright, and devoid of unnecessary information without losing their highly scientific character.

In the view of the Vice-President of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences Yuri Belskiy, there will be new textbooks and teaching aids on both compulsory school subjects and optional disciplines.

Working on new textbooks and teaching aids are scientists, teachers, specialists in several subjects, as well as literary workers. The famous Soviet children's writer Sergei Mikhalikov took an active part in the preparation of the ABC book for first year pupils.

In the USSR nearly 120 titles of textbooks for secondary schools and educational literature are published in fifty-two national languages, including those spoken only by a few thousand or several hundred people, like the minor nationalities in the North.

All textbooks are distributed free of charge in children.

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